

REMARKS

Claims 24-39 have been added and are pending. Claims 1-23 have been canceled. Support for the new claims can be found in, for example, in original claims 1-23 and in the specification, for example, at page 8 lines 24-32, page 13 lines 7-22, page 14 lines 3-6, page 14 lines 30-31, page 20 lines 3-9, page 20 lines 21-25, and page 22 lines 24-31. No new matter has been added.

Support for Amendment to the Specification and Correction of Figs. 1 and 2.

In order to correct inadvertent typographical errors, Applicants have amended Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. The amendment to the drawings changes the designation “22a” to “22b” and “22b” to “22a” in Fig. 1 and “22a” to “22” in Fig. 2. These changes should be recognized as obvious typographical errors by one of skill in the art looking at the figures in conjunction with the description in the specification. The changes make the specification consistent.

Support for the changes is as follows. Page 7, lines 20-23 recites that “The central reservoir region 24 . . . is in fluid communication with the proximal ends.” Thus, “22a” is the proximal end of microchannel 22. The specification further states at Page 7, lines 25-28, “In the embodiment shown in Fig. 3, each microchannel terminates at its **distal end** with three channels 26a, 26b. . .”. (emphasis added) The specification at page 7, lines 17-18 also recites, “Each microchannel includes a proximal end 22a and a distal end 22b. Therefore, in Fig. 1, the designation in the figure should be amended to show the proximal end as “22a” and the distal end as “22b.” Additionally, Applicants have removed the “a” from “22a” in Fig. 2 to be consistent with Fig. 1 and the specification.

A copy of original Figs. 1 and 2 with annotations drawn and circled in red ink, and the replacement sheets showing the corrected drawings, are provided for the Examiner’s review. The Examiner is requested to review and approve the proposed drawing corrections.

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The changes should not be considered to add new matter because the correct description is clearly presented in the specification at least at Page 7, lines 25-28. Furthermore, one of skill in the art reading the specification and looking at the figures would recognize that the original designation in Figs. 1 and 2 should be changed.

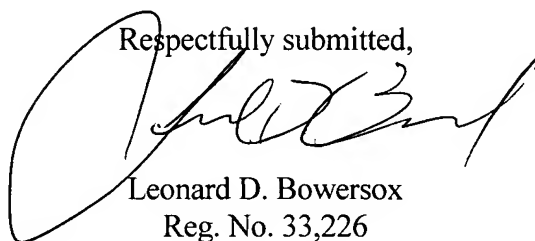
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment, favorable consideration of the present application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action by Applicants or Applicants' undersigned representative is desirable and/or necessary, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number set forth below.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to deposit Account No. 50-0925. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such extension is requested and should also be charged to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Leonard D. Bowersox", is written over the typed name and registration number.

Leonard D. Bowersox
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Enclosures: Annotated Drawings Sheet Showing Changes to Figs. 1-2
Replacement Drawing Sheet including Figs. 1-3

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AMENDMENT TO THE FIGURES:

The attached replacement sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 1 and Fig 2. The replacement sheet, which includes Figs. 1-3, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 1-3. Also attached is a copy of the original drawing sheet showing annotations in red ink that result in the changes incorporated in the replacement sheet.

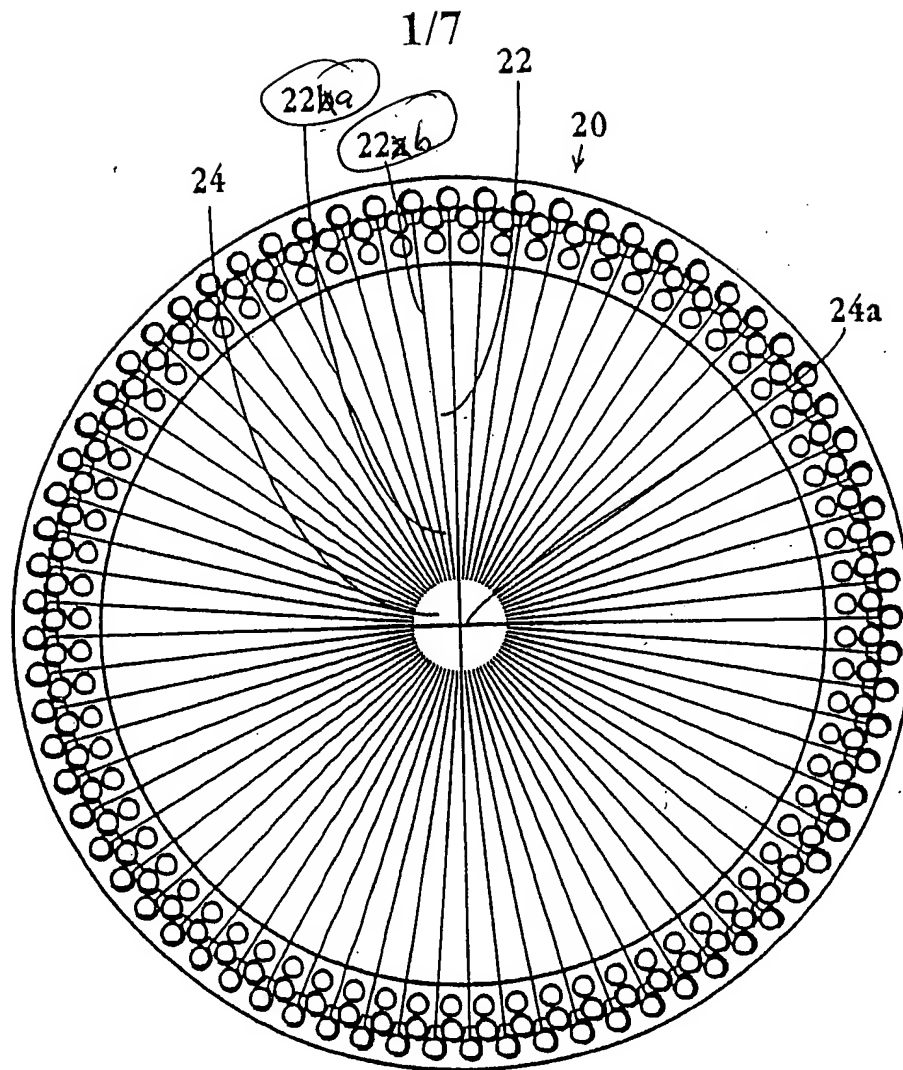


Fig. 1

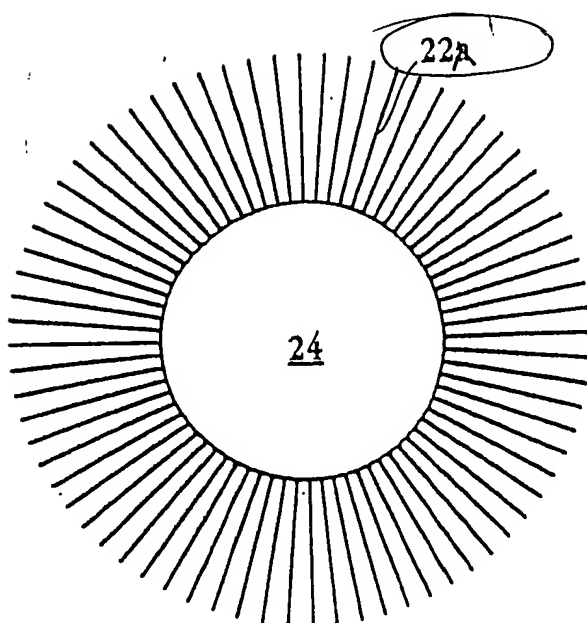


Fig. 2

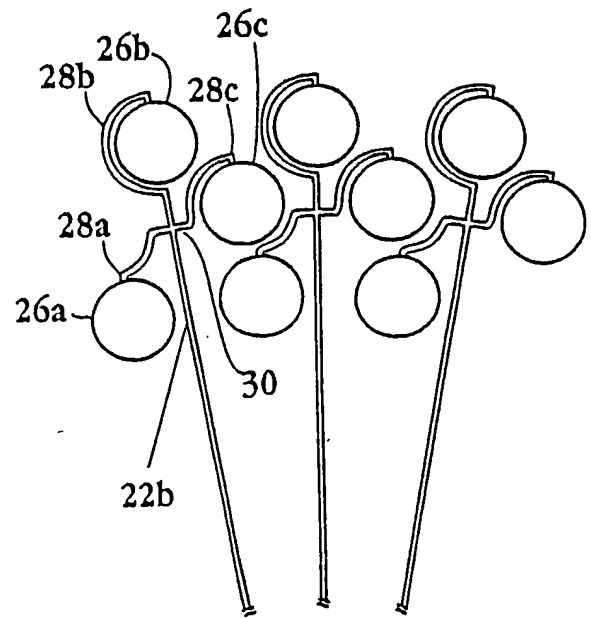


Fig. 3